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October 9, 2003

SENT VIA FACSIMILE 720.544.0601 AND REGULAR MAIL

5-Mile Zone
D-8580
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
PO Box 25007
Denver, CO. 80225-0007

Re: 5-Mile Zone RMP/EA

Ladies/Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I represent Hillander "C" Irrigation District. Hillander "C" is located within the 5-Mile Zone along the U.S./Mexico border, and in response to your Draft Resource Management Plan for the 5-Mile Zone, Hillander "C" hereby submits the following written comments.

Hillander "C" objects to the proposed Water use/accounting element for Alternatives B, C, and D. More specifically, Hillander "C" objects to considering water pumped from existing and future wells in the 5-mile zone Colorado River water and implementing procedures to account for such water. There has been a long dispute between our district, the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Bureau of Reclamation regarding whether or not the water we pump is Colorado River water. This dispute includes disagreements as to the origin of the aquifer, the source of replenishment and the legal definition of Colorado River "water". There is a long history of correspondence between the District, the State and the Bureau which documents this dispute.

The Resource Management Plan should be based on sound science not speculation. The District believes it is a mistake to include the adoption of the Water use/account element as written as part of this Resource Management Plan.

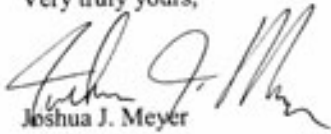
Otherwise, Hillander "C" Irrigation District supports alternatives C and D because those alternatives support the greatest amount of economic development in the area. Even though the land owned by the Bureau will not be available for development, the privately held land will need access over Bureau lands for roads and utilities. Alternatives C and D will allow such access.

*Certified by the State Bar of Arizona as a Specialist in Real Estate Law
Licensed Arizona Real Estate Broker*

Bureau of Reclamation, 5-Mile Zone
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Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Joshua J. Meyer

cc: Stephen P. Shadle, Director
Eddie Loo, Director
Nels Rogers, Director